

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Nels R. SMITH et al.  
Title: VEHICLE COMPONENT AND METHOD FOR  
MAKING A VEHICLE COMPONENT  
App. No.: 10/585,038  
International Filing Date: 1/3/2005  
371(c) Date: 6/29/2006  
Examiner: Ryan M. Ochylski  
Art Unit: 1743  
Conf. No.: 6065

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Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated September 23, 2011, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: